Allied Paper

Meeting

Taken on: November 19, 2015

JENSEN LITIGATION SOLUTIONS

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4	ALLIED PAPER/PORTAGE CREEK/KALAMAZOO RIVER	
5	SUPERFUND SITE - PROPOSED CLEANUP PLAN	
6		
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9	PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS	
10	Held at the Washington Writers' Academy	
11	1919 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan	
12	Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.	
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19	Presenter: Michael Berkoff, U.S. EPA Remedial Project	
20	Manager	
21	Coordinator: Diane Russell, U.S. EPA Community	
22	Involvement Coordinator	
23		
24		



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1	(Public Hearing, November 19th, 2015, 6:00 p.m.)	1	it on any paper you desire if you'd like to put it
2	MS. RUSSELL: All right. I want to be	2	in word and send it to me. And we're taking those
3	respectful of your time so we're going to get	3	through December 1st. Postmark and send it to me
4	started. We do have a few other folks signing in	4	in the mail postmarked by December 1st.
5	but we have some housekeeping things. Before we	5	Okay, so before we get going and, again,
6	get into the presentation, and especially before	6	for the purposes of the court reporter, if you
7	we kick off, I just wanted to say thank you for	7	could please take this opportunity to silence your
8	coming out tonight a lot of familiar faces,	8	cell phones and pagers, if any of you have
9	it's great to see many of you again. This is a	9	pagers. All right. So for the agenda, we're just
10	place that we've been waiting to come to for a	10	going to do a brief welcome and introductions and
11	long time and so this is a milestone moment and	11	we've kind of covered part of this already, and
12	we're glad that you could share that with us.	12	then we're going to get into the presentation.
13	So tonight we are holding our proposed	13	Again, a lot of familiar faces here. You've
14	plan meeting; that's the purpose of tonight's	14	probably seen a lot of these slides before, but
15	meeting, and is for the Allied Paper Landfill,	15	maybe there are some new ones in there to keep
16	which is part of the Kalamazoo River Superfund	16	things exciting.
17	Site. And I have some of these fact sheets	17	And then we'll have a question-and-answer
18	many of you may have received these in the mail	18	portion of the meeting and that will be a chance
19	and they might be things to hold on to because of	19	for us if you have questions about the proposed
20	the many points as Michael goes through his	20	plan, for us to answer. And that's the best time
21	presentation might be nice to have, not only the	21	to really get your questions answered because
22 23	visual up here but also something you can	22 23	during the public comment portion we will not be
24	reference in your hand. So that's what this is on and we also have an agenda I set out for many of	24	responding to any questions at that time. So perfect time to get the back and forth in before
24		24	
	Page 3 Page		Page 5 Page
1	you. And I'm going over that in a moment but I	1	we take the break and then do the public comments.
2	thought this is going to basically break down how	2	If you want to make a public comment
3	the evening is going to go.	3	tonight, I encourage you, if you haven't already,
4	I will say that on this agenda you'll	4	pick up one of these numbered cards; it's really
5	notice that there's a break point. We are going	5	just a manner for me to make sure on the
6	to take a five-minute break before we make formal	6	transcript we get your name right, as well as keep
7	public comments and those comments are going to be	7	an orderly fashion. Once we take a break, I'm
8	recorded into record. We have with us a court	8	going to set up a microphone in the middle aisle
9	reporter, who is going to be recording everything	9	here and when I call your name you can just come
10	this evening. So please just be aware that we're	10	up to the mic and provide your verbal comment for
11	recording this and that when you speak and ask	11	the court reporter. To stay on track with
12	questions and when we get to the verbal comments,	12	tonight's agenda, I'm going to go ahead and do
13	if you could state and spell your name for the	13	introductions.
14	court reporter, and speak as clearly as you can so	14	First, I'll introduce myself. I'm Diane
15	that we get that all on record.	15	Russell, I'm EPA's Community Involvement
16	Once we start the public comment portion,	16	Coordinator for this site. I work out of the
17	and I'll reiterate this again, just so we give	17	EPA's Saginaw office. And then we also have
18	everyone a chance to speak, if you could keep your	18	Michael Berkoff, who is EPA's Project Manager for
19	comments brief and under five minutes I'll be	19	Allied Landfill and we also have Jim Saric here
20	kind of keeping track and give you a little nudge	20	who is also the EPA Project Manager for the
21	when it's getting near there.	21	Superfund site. We have Paul Bucholz, who is with
		1	
22 23	And also you can always also turn in written comments and this written form is included	22	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and we have a few smatterings of other EPA and MDEQ



folks, but these are the important people of the

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in the fact sheet, but of course you could provide 24

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	Page 6 Page		Page 8 Page
1	evening.	1	of the landfill is, where the waste resides.
2	With that so part of the process when	2	We talk about the Bryant Historic
3	we get into cleanup for the EPA, is we have a	3	Residual Watering Lagoons the former residual
4	public comment process and this is really what	4	watering lagoons and the Monarch Historic
5	tonight is all about. We're in a place where	5	Residual Watering Lagoons and that was across
6	we've come out with some we've looked at all	6	Portage Creek. Nestled in the middle of this
7	alternatives and options of what we can do with	7	property is the Panelyte Property, which is not a
8	the Allied Landfill Site and we took a look at	8	part of the site, just south of Alcott Street.
9	each one of those, and EPA proposed a cleanup	9	This way's north.
10	plan.	10	So here's another view of the Allied
11	We didn't pick it; we can't do that,	11	Landfill. What's different in this figure that
12	because we have to have the public's input, the	12	I'm showing you in gray, is the extent of
13	community's input. And that's really what this is	13	residuals; that's the paper waste which is
14	all about and the public comment period that we	14	contaminated with PCBs. This was investigated
15	have we have to do a 60-day public comment that	15	under remedial investigation and MDEQ led this
16	ends on December 1.	16	study and delineated the extent of it. You can
17	So tonight is an important step in this	17	see it here.
18	process with this public meeting and once we get	18	The reason why I'm pointing out the
19	through the public comment process there are other	19	residuals here is because the PCBs are bound to
20	steps we go through as well, which I'll highlight	20	residuals and that's based upon the data we've
21	towards the end here of the meeting tonight on how	21	seen in remedial investigation, which we'll talk a
22	we review that and what that comes out to be. And	22	little about. Before we got to this date, before
23	then when we get to the point where we actually	23	we even did our remedial investigation, there was
24	make a decision and say what definitively we're	24	some work done at Allied Landfill, some of the
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	Page 7		
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1 2	Page going to go with. So with that process, I'm going	1 2	
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1	Page 10 some remedial investigations that looked at why is	1	Page 12 kind of flows laterally towards Portage Creek here
2	a cleanup necessary and that was in a document	2	and as it approached Portage Creek it comes from
3	authored by The Michigan Department of	3	further down closer to the surface towards Portage
4	Environmental Equality. EPA approved it in 2008,	4	Creek.
5	and it looked at a number of things; it developed	5	So the key is upward gradient and not
6	a conceptual site model. One of the major points	6	downward towards the city well field. Some of the
7	was that the PCBs are bound to the residuals. We	7	exposures that we see then at the landfill itself,
8	expect that based upon what we know of PCBs, they	8	the risk would be erosion and runoff of
9	want to bind to organic material and they	9	contaminated material in areas that are not capped
10	certainly have a lot of it there at the site in	10	and this will pose a risk for erosion runoff.
11	the form of paper residuals. And that's backed up	11	When it does so, it could impact the fish and then
12	also by our investigation, too.	12	consumers of fish. Further, uncapped residuals,
13	And we look at our soil data with a look	13	exposed residuals could pose a risk of direct
14	at the PCBs. Even with paper residuals, we don't	14	contact with people on the landfill.
15	see it in the soil right next to residuals.	15	So looking at the PCBs here and looking
16	Additionally, we also look at the groundwater	16	at the exposures here, we could look at a variety
17	data. We see that the PCBs are not detected in	17	of medium, that means soil, sediments,
18	groundwater when we're looking outside the waste.	18	groundwater. We looked at different kinds of
19	One of the other points made in the	19	exposure scenarios, exposure to people, exposure
20	conceptual site model is as far as groundwater.	20	to animals and came up with a number of cleanup
21	The reason why groundwater has gotten a lot of	21	alternatives or cleanup numbers, sorry soil
22	attention at this site is that groundwater is	22	numbers, sediment, groundwater.
23	influenced by Portage Creek, flows towards Portage	23	We also acknowledge that we know that
24	Creek. And most importantly here is that it's not	24	where we have the residuals, we have the PCBs.
	Page 11		Page 13
1	flowing towards the city well field, dropping down	1	PCBs are bound to these residuals so we use a
2	and flowing towards the city well field.	2	visual criteria for making our first crack at
3	So based on this, it may not pose a risk	3	excavation. If you can see the residuals, you can
4	to the groundwater or city well field, groundwater	4	use a visual indicator, excavate it, and see
5	may not be impacted, but there are still risks out	5	whether or not we got it all that way.
6	there that need to be addressed and cleanup is	6	For the other contaminants at the site
7	still necessary.	7	that are not PCBs, what we're using as our cleanup

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8 9 10 11 feasibility study for the site, the feasibility 12 study builds on the remedial investigation and 13 14

As a part of -- after developing these remedial action objections, EPA also does an objectives. After we released the feasibility study in 2013, the city asked us to take a pause

flows in that direction. You see that groundwater 312,236,6936 877.653.6736 Fax 312.236.6968 www.jensenlitigation.com

So the risks that were identified in the

remedial investigation are that consumption of

residuals getting into Portage Creek pose a risk.

Pond removal action and were things to get back

and runoff of contaminated soil residuals could

purpose a risk again. Some of the residuals are

exposed where they currently are and so they pose

a risk of direct contact. So some of the concepts

of our conceptual site model are kind of visually

groundwater that is captured by Portage Creek and

into Bryant -- into Portage through erosion

runoff, it would pose a risk again.

So jumping down to the third one, erosion

displayed to you. This is looking at the

That certainly was the case before the Bryant Mill

fish that have been impacted by PCBs, by the

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that are not PCBs, what we're using as our cleanup numbers are the generic Michigan numbers. approving of the Michigan's remedial investigation, EPA ran a number of reports. In 2013, the

takes some of those risks I just talked about and turns them into remedial action objectives.

15 are the objectives that every alternative has to 16 meet to be considered as one of the alternatives or

17 the goal of the cleanup for that.

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evaluation of technologies looking at the different ones to be applied to meet those remedial action

and to talk to them and talk to MDEQ and see if

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there might be any other alternatives that we could see about that might also address the contamination at the site, meet the remedial action objectives, and possibly be better than some of the ones we had already concluded.

So we did so. We started meeting with the State of Michigan, with the City of Kalamazoo, and talked to them about a couple of different ways to look at this property and take a look at EPA's cleanup process for this, too. Also, during this time, the Michigan, State of Michigan asked us to take another look at the groundwater data and we did so. And then lastly, too, the City of Kalamazoo also asked us to take another look at different alternative remediation technologies and see whether or not any of them would be applicable here.

EPA called on its national experts who took a look at all the different emergent technologies and to evaluate whether any would be applicable here are at the Allied Site. Our conclusion was that they're not. Due to the nature of the waste site here, the PCBs are bound to the waste and that although there are some intriguing

Page 16 1 prevent contaminated waste material from impacting 2 ground and surface water.

3 So we have these remedial action 4 objectives. We evaluate the technologies and come 5 up with an array of alternatives. Those 6 alternatives in order to be included in the 7 feasibility study have to meet professional

8 criteria of being protective and meeting EPA laws. 9 So that's how we get to our cut of what are the

10 alternatives that we have. 11

Once we start comparing these alternatives against each other, we look at some of the balancing criteria -- we look at the balancing criteria of the long-term effectiveness and permanency of the remedy; whether or not it produces toxicity through treatment; short-term effectiveness; impenetrability; and cost-effectiveness, and that comes from looking at the cost and comparing it to the long-term

20 effectiveness, short-term impact, and the value 21 impact there. So the modifying criteria are state 22 and community acceptance.

So including the addendum, the full array of alternatives, EPA evaluated for the no-action

Page 15

technologies for maybe other sites, they don't seem to be applicable here at Allied Landfill.

So in 2015, one of the things that we were working on with the city while looking at other alternatives, we put together an addendum to the feasibility study and published it June of 2015. And that included this new alternative, which includes that much larger pullback of the waste and it brings in long-term storage. From the groundwater study, the purpose of it, of the groundwater study, was to support potential development and long-term groundwater monitoring network of the site. As part of it, we installed additional deep wells, looking at some of the groundwater, investigated and ultimately confirmed the conceptual site model from the State of Michigan's remedial investigation.

So I mentioned a few moments ago the remedial action objectives. So we're putting together the alternatives as these three objectives: to prevent direct contact, and that's the first action objection; and the second one is to prevent PCB contaminated materials from eroding and getting into Portage Creek; and lastly, to

24 Page 17

> 1 alternative, which is required in our analysis and then an array of consolidation capping

3 alternatives. The first is 2A, which would leave

4 that Monarch hurdle where it is. Second one is 2B, 5 which would take Monarch over as its main body of

6 landfill. Then 2C, which is much like 2B, except

7 of the waste that's excavated. The most highly

8 contaminated would be sent off site for

9 incineration. I should say, too, in these three

10 consolidation capping alternatives, that the

11 alternatives would include a fence around the 12

landfill.

In 2D, it's much like 2B, except for the footprint would be much more consolidated. And there would be long-term stewardship involved in the remedy that would come in two ways; it would be active-use of the capped area with some light recreation, which would bring stewardship there. And, also, the areas around the base of the landfill that would be subject to excavation would be then available for some kind of reuse with more commercial/industrial uses, which would have an effect on long-term stewardship there, too. The other alternatives are, No. 3,



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Page 18

Winter/Spring of 2016.

removal and off-site disposal. After that removal would be done, the main body of landfill would be wetland. And then the last one is encapsulation and long-term monitoring network; that would be building containment cells on the property, excavating material, putting down liner and putting a backing and containment cells.

Here are the costs, the estimated costs of the remedies, the capital costs and how much it would cost to build it, and then what we estimated for the OEM costs. A lot of people have had questions about an OEM costs, so this number here, what it represents is if you take this money now, put it in a bank account and have it earn interest, that money in that bank account would be allocated for paying for the estimated long-term --- or pay for the upkeep long term. And so this then gives us our total number over here.

Some of you may be familiar with this graphic from our fact sheet. It's a comparison of the different alternatives against each other and some of these are things we looked at in our evaluation of the alternatives using the criteria. I should note that we talked about the area

Page 19

available for reuse; that's not one of the criteria here, but certainly the long-term stewardship that would occur at these areas is something that factors into the long-term effectiveness in front of us.

We'll give you an opportunity to look at this for a few little bit. You can see the short-term impacts of truckloads going to the site and leaving the site. Some of it bringing backfill in green; leaving the site in orange. How much PCB material would be managed?

So ultimately when the EPA was looking at these criteria, and is proposing alternative 2D, is because the long-term effectiveness and permanence of that remedy is heightened and we feel that is enough to outweigh the other alternatives.

So here's the proposed alternative; it's consolidation capping of material with long-term stewardship of the property. It would be done by having a greatly reduced footprint, allowing for reuse around the area or reuse on top and gaining the stewardship that way. One of the remedial action objections, as I said, was prevent waste from getting into Portage Creek.

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Also, by having this footprint reduced and pulling waste away from Portage Creek, really helps address that remedial action effectively. An implementation for this remedy would be about three years once we start the cleanup. Another way to look at the remedy here is just another view of it and it gives you an idea of what the work would entail. The areas in brown would be subject to excavation and this purple would be where the cap would be.

Now, the footprint we're showing here does not look exactly like what the city had shown in their presentation in February of this year, but that doesn't mean that we can't get there eventually. What it speaks to and I think what the take-home message is there, is really that more collaboration is necessary in the future. The city has shown that maybe some of the waste can be put at Panelyte. Given Panelyte, and EPA doesn't have control over it -- but that might be possible through further collaboration. I'm going to hand it back to Diane.

MS. RUSSELL: Thank you, Michael. All right, so let's go back to this graphic from the

Page 21

beginning, and basically I just want to highlight the next steps here. And once we complete the 60-day public comment period, which we're in now, and not only tonight providing your verbal comments, but you could also provide that via mail.

We also have a public comment form online and all that information on where to access is in this gray box on the fact sheet right towards the bottom, public comment period, several ways to offer comments. So if you don't feel like getting out in the public tonight and voicing your concern, you can certainly do that in writing or online in the public comment form.

comment period, EPA considers those comments and records the responsiveness — their responses in the document that they called the responsiveness summary. So that's where EPA consolidates the comments they've gotten and responds to each one of those comments in a way that addresses what those were about. And then that responsiveness summary will be included for public record and viewing along with the record of decision which is expected

So once we complete that 60-day public



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So there's still a few steps to go even after tonight. We've got the public comment period, which is complete December 1 and then we go to the next step of actually taking time to review all of those comments and coming up with responses to those, and then getting onto the record of decision.

All right. So now we come to the portion of the meeting where we are -- we'll take questions. I just want to reiterate that this is time to ask and interact. If you have -- and I know that many of you have asked Michael questions before, it's time to do that if you want to take advantage of that now before we take our break, because, again, we cannot respond during the public comment portion. We will listen but we can't respond to questions.

So now is the time -- and what we'll do to make this so we can make sure that everyone's questions are picked up by the court reporter, I'll come around to you with a microphone and please before you make your question, if you could state your name for the court reporter that would be ever so helpful. So with that, would anyone want to

we would have always discussed them in remedial 1

2 investigation, feasibility study providing cleanup

numbers for all of them. During any kind of

4 cleanup going on out there and confirmation there,

5 would be confirmation for those constituents, too.

6 Certainly they identify PCBs as the primary

7 constituents concerned, but we also characterize

8 the other constituents. We also have examples of

9 lead; we have chromium out there; mercury. We've

10 looked at all of those, we've tested those to see

11 if we have hazardous levels and we don't. So we

12 have investigated those in some of our other

13 documents.

> MS. RUSSELL: I have this working again. Sorry. Anyone else want to ask a question? I'm going back here. State your name for the court reporter, please.

MR. KORNHEISER: Ken K-o-r-n-h-e-i-s-e-r. At the October 22 meeting there was a firm that came forth called BioPath, they said they had some kind of bio remediation. That was four weeks ago, so this is a two-part question. One is, has there been any change in EPA's assessment or interactions with this company regarding the bio-remediation

Page 23

start off with the questions portion of the meeting? Raise your hand. All right. I'll come over to you. Don't forget to state your name for the court reporter, please.

THE COURT REPORTER: Just spell it, please? Could you just spell it. I'm sorry. MR. WHITESIDES: W-h-i-t-e-s-i-d-e-s. My goal is to clean up, you say there are safe levels of contamination that you must meet?

MR. WHITESIDES: Romeo, Oscar, Bravo --

MR. BERKOFF: Yes.

MR. WHITESIDES: Unlisted and undisclosed contaminants, at least in your presentation. I know in the documentation there are long lists of contaminants in addition to PCBs.

MR. BERKOFF: Yes.

SPEAKER: How does that fit with the strictest interpretation that this site is contaminated with PCBs and the rest of it is never mentioned as part of the Superfund process, but yet we're going to clean it up. Is that only as incidental to PCB or is it specifically targeted? MR. BERKOFF: I would say that those

other constituents are specifically targeted; that

Page 25 1 process? And the second question would be, if that

2 is not considered, if it's not included in the 3 recommendation, the decision, is there still an

opportunity for that process to be introduced?

MR. BERKOFF: Thank you. So the question is a -- Mick Warner is actually here tonight -- and talked about BioPath, technology that his company has and whether or not it would be a viable technology at the landfill. I haven't heard anything from Mick since then in that meeting and the night before I had offered him the opportunity to do a bench-scale study using waste from Allied

and haven't heard anything.

I have gone out and gotten a little bit more information about BioPath, went onto their website and haven't found anything that really discusses their success stories, no studies that show whether or not it's viable. That said, I'd be happy to work with BioPath and see whether or not the technology is viable for waste and Allied and they're more than welcome to approach me, and as far as moving forward, I think the first step is really to figure out if it's a viable technology.

MR. KORNHEISER: So is that process still



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Page 28
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     available for utilization if there's a route that
                                                               you'll go from 43 million to 63 million.
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     does not include it specifically?
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                                                                         MR. FENSTERMAKER: This flat square
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              MR. BERKOFF: You know, the circle
                                                               footage in 'C' is larger, I guess you'll have a
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     process allows us to amend remedies if it's
                                                               higher height in 'D'; is that a fair statement?
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     necessary. And certainly if there's a silver
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                                                                         MR. BERKOFF: We have a higher -- 'D', we
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    bullet out here that can address PCB contamination,
                                                               have a higher pullback from the creek, which is a
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     we would want to utilize it if it's a viable
                                                               real positive there and then the stewardship that
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     alternative, but I think the first step really is
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                                                               would come with reuse of the property adding to the
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     to do a bench-scale study. And like I said, I'm
                                                               long-term effectiveness for 2D.
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     very happy to facilitate that, calling on some of
                                                                         MS. RUSSELL: All right. We have a
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     EPA's experts to make sure is a defensible study so
                                                               question up here.
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     that we can evaluate it appropriately.
                                                                         SPEAKER: George Magas, M-a-g-a-s. You
                                                               said that you had to go to Texas to take the PCBs
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              MS. RUSSELL: We have a question here.
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                                                               to incinerate. We have a major concentration of
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              MR. FENSTERMAKER: Hagan Fenstermaker,
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     H-a-g-a-n F-e-n-s-t-e-r-m-a-k-e-r. Could you
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                                                               paper plants in Michigan, so why can't we get ahold
     discuss a little bit the difference in options 2C
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                                                               of the company that builds those, build one of them
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     and 2D. Is the primary difference not shrinking
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                                                               here, give them a million dollar grant money to
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     the footprint of the primary landfill area outside
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                                                               build a facility and we can burn all the PCBs
                                                               throughout the and that will resolve the problem.
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     of the removal incineration?
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              MR. BERKOFF: Well, The removal
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                                                               I mean, I don't understand this. You guys, you
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     incineration is the considerable difference; it
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                                                               want nuclear waste from out East and down in
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     drives up the cost for alternative 2C because the
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                                                               Florida all the way to Nevada; that's never going
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     facilities that can handle incineration, I think
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                                                               to happen. I mean it costs too much money to ship
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    we've got one in Texas or Utah. So that would be
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                                                               it from one part of the country to the other when
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     -- that would really drive up the price compared to
                                                               we spent millions of dollars on these facilities
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     2D. But as far as differences between 2C and 2D,
                                                               that we're never going to use. I mean, the EPA is
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     is that incineration component, the landfill is
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                                                               crazy.
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     shrunk considerably in 2D. The fences would still
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                                                                         MR. BERKOFF: Okay, thank you.
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    be up in 2C. The fences would be down except for a
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                                                                         MS. RUSSELL: Question? I want to get
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     small portion for a mechanicals and landfill gas
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                                                               everyone's comments and I want to take a couple
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     collection system in 2D, that is. And then --
                                                               more questions; we're open to do that. Otherwise
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     those would be the primary differences.
                                                               we'll take a five-minute break. Any questions you
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              MR. FENSTERMAKER:
                                   So that would be
                                                               wanted to get in at this point? Going once, twice.
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     offsetting the cost of incineration at the
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                                                               All right. Can we just take a brief five-minute
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remaining landfill --

MR. BERKOFF: Well, -- I'm sorry? MR. FENSTERMAKER: -- significant

differences reclaimed in 2D, but in 'C' you're actually proposing removing material so I'm just trying to figure out the difference --

MR. BERKOFF: Yes. The material would not be that large of an amount; it would be more like 10,000 cubic yards. And it's really the cost there, is purely for that transportation and then incineration. So I kind of look at it as more separate things; they are both building off of 2B, so when you go from 2B to 2C, you'll -- 43 million

to 70 million and then when you go from 2B to 'D',

break and we'll come back and we'll start the public comment portion. If you want to make a public comment, please grab a card and turn it in to me and they'll be at the registration desk and they look like this. And then go ahead and turn those in to me if you would.

(The hearing is recessed at 7:00 p.m.) (The hearing is resumed at 7:05 p.m.) MS. RUSSELL: Okay, we're going to get started with the public comment portion of the meeting. First, a few of the instructions. Please

remember that this is your opportunity to provide comments, which will be recorded as part of the

official record for this project. EPA will not be

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responding to comments or questions expressed during this portion of the meeting but the EPA will follow up with a responsiveness summary, with the meeting being made available to the public.

If you turned in a card, I will call your name and come to the microphone at the front and state your comment. You don't have to worry about your name, I'm going to hand your names over to the court reporter so you don't have to worry about that.

But do speak clearly so she can record that and note that only spoken words and not gestures will be recorded. And so that everybody will have a chance to speak please keep your comments brief. I'm going to kind of keep track and at the five-minute mark I will kind of -- you to allow some others to come forward. After this hearing, this meeting we'll be receiving a transcript of the meeting, the PowerPoint presentation, all the comments that you received tonight from our court reporter and we'll post those on our website.

With that, I will get started with our first commenter and I'll ask you just to step

Page 32 fed laboratory rats very large amounts of PCBs and the rats got liver cancer, but no other cancer.

The EPA classified PCBs as probable human carcinogens with all of its extensive consequences mostly based on the 2nd study from 1975. Then a researcher in Germany, Dr. Ekkehard, repeated Dr. Kimbrough's work in 1984. They found that the treated rats got more liver tumors, but fewer tumors of other tissues, so that their overall cancer rate was lower and their survival rate better than for the untreated rats.

There was a protective effect for cancers other than liver cancers. Later, Dr. Kimbrough became the director for Health and Risk Capabilities in the Office of the Administrator of the U.S. EPA in Washington, DC. She left the EPA in 1889 [sic] after only two years in this position.

this important and secure position, the answer was very short; it became political. When the chairman of General Electric asked her to evaluate the health of workers heavily exposed to PCBs in their work, she agreed and followed, with her coworkers,

When I asked her why she resigned from

Page 31

forward to this microphone in the front aisle here. And our first commenter is Claus Globig.

MR. GLOBIG: My name is Claus Globig, C-l-a-u-s G-l-o-b-i-g, and I'm an international consultant and I've lived in Kalamazoo for 54 years. I'm a chemical and mechanical engineer and I have followed the PCB issue in the role of investigative reporter for the last 20 years. As a result, I can say today that the fence around the landfill could be removed tomorrow and the area developed without any harm to human or plant life

The rationale for this conclusion is contained in a 35-page lecture, which I gave to Western Michigan University's engineering students, and also in an abbreviated open letter to the residents of Kalamazoo. In a nutshell, the history is as follows: A young medical director -- a medical doctor and pathologist, Renate Kimbrough, came from Germany and devoted her professional life to public health by working for the U.S. EPA and for the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and later, again, for the U.S. EPA. In two studies from 1972 and 1975, she and her coworkers

the health of more than 7,000 workers for 34 years.

The book was published in 1999 and later

confirmed in 2003 with an update which concluded that PCBs do not cause cancer or any other serious illness in humans. In 2009, Dr. Robert Golden and Dr. Renate Kimbrough stated in a paper: The weight of evidence does not support a causal association to PCBs and human health, cancer. The dramatic differences between rodents and humans in sensitivity to PCB-mediated induction of CYPI Al gene, suggests that even occupational exposure to PCBs have never resulted in PCB body burdens approaching the levels required to initiate the sequence of events involved in the promotion of

These comments explain why I have a problem with the U.S. EPA headquarters in Washington, DC. To prove a cause-and-effect relationship, one would have to demonstrate a pathway. Thank you.

liver cancer in rodents.

21 MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. We have Robert 22 Whitesides.

MR. WHITESIDES: My name is Robert Whitesides and it's still spelled the same. There

as far as PCBs are concerned.

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seems to be a conflation of the cost and funding. Cost is one of the balancing items of the nine goods, I believe. I'd say that because whenever I see the nine factors I think the little red book of something.

Funding is totally separate; it's not addressed by EPA in any of these decisions. What we do know is that there is funding established through the Chapter 11 process that Lyondell Basell went through. And I'd like everybody to become familiar with the document and I'll read it, but I've given the copies to the court reporter:

The United States' Memorandum in Support of Debtors Motion Pursuant to Fed R. BANKR.P.9109 to Approve Settlement Agreement Among the Debtors, The Environmental Custodial Trustee -- or trust trustee, The United States, and Certain State Environmental Agencies.

This is what was hashed out over about six months between all of those characters, submitted to the court and the court approved it. It has a special reference on page 12, Section 7 called the Kalamazoo Site and I will read it for clarity:

1 the settlement of litigation with the debtors

- 2 concerning the dischargeability of injunctive
 - environmental obligations and non-debtor owned
- 4 property -- clarifying non-debtor owned property;
- 5 that's the river, and they refer to Sec. 5(a)(2) of
- 6 the agreement. Last, certain debtors will transfer
- 7 \$53,721,850 in cash to the Environmental Custodial
- 8 Trust to be used for the cleanup and restoration of
- 9 the Allied Paper Mill property, a debtor-owned
- 10 portion of the Kalamazoo Site known as Operable 11
 - Unit One.

So what we have is specified in an agreement in bankruptcy court that there is 53 million for the Allied Paper Mill property, a debtor-owned portion, and that is now under the control of the environmental trustee known as the LaPetamine 23, I believe, headquartered in Chicago.

The other money is for settlement of litigation for non-debtor owned property, which is the river itself. So I think this conflation of these two amounts into some \$100,000,000 has been dogging people for quite some time, but is

22 23 specified in this agreement.

24 MS. RUSSELL: We have Jim Miller.

of Natural Resources.

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1 Because most of the comments received by 2 the United States pertain to the Kalamazoo site --3 most of us participated in those comments -- key 4 items of the proposed settlement agreement 5 applicable to that site are summarized separately 6 here. Under the proposed settlement agreement, the 7 Kalamazoo Site is addressed pursuant to the terms 8 described above in connection with liquidated 9 sites, settlement of the debtor's objections to the 10 United States' proof of claim, and the 11 Environmental Custodial Trust. More specifically, 12 the proposed settlement agreement provides for 13 three distinct settlement amounts for the Kalamazoo 14 Site.

First, EPA will receive an allowed general unsecured claim of \$908,261,837 against debtor Millennium Holdings, LLC for the Kalamazoo Site, and DOI -- The Department of the Interior -and NOAA will receive an allowed general unsecured claim against Millennium Holdings of \$124,231,125 for the site. And they referred to 'See Settlement Agreement', Sec. 4(a)(2).

Second, EPA will receive a cash payment of \$49,549,379 for the Kalamazoo Site as part of

MR. MILLER: Good evening, my name is Jim Miller and I'm president and founder of Catskill Remedial Contracting Services, an Otsego-based environmental contractor. I've been working in the environmental remediation business since 1972, including nine years with the Michigan Department

During that time, I spent a good deal of my time there administrating -- administering enforcement actions to facilitate the proper closure capping in operation landfills, public and private, in Michigan. I founded Catskill in 1995 and we have since that time worked on about 200 landfill projects throughout the Midwest. A local one that you might be familiar with is the capping of the KL Avenue Superfund Site Landfill with a company that a Mick Warner, who is here tonight, was with also. We continue to maintain that site since that time, since we capped it.

With my background, I'm familiar with all components of closing a landfill; regulatory compliance; the design and implementation of capping and closure; and post closure and long term operations and maintenance. With regard to the



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Allied Paper Landfill Site, I think it's preferable 2 and important to fully clean-close the site so that 3 the entire site can be reused, and I think it is 4 important that we use local labor and resources to 5 get us there. Because we are a local company, we 6 support complete cleanup and not just the Allied 7 Site but the entire river.

The plan that we are preparing to commit to, to achieve total cleanup of the Allied Paper Site, \$48,000,000 is \$15,000,000 less than the EPA's estimate of 63 million, which will leave 15 million available for the cleanup of down river contamination.

The plan for the Allied Landfill Site is

to use BioPath Solutions enzymatic dechlorination process to eliminate PCBs on-site. The cleanup is structured in this fashion in such that the cleanup team gets paid the full \$48,000,000 only if the full cleanup is achieved by enzymatic dechlorination. If a full cleanup is not achieved and any of the material has to be capped on site, 15 million of the total \$48,000,000 we've restricted for long-term operation and maintenance.

Page 40 are asking for support from the community and our

- 2 request to the EPA and facility to transfer the
- 3 Allied Paper Site privately and to support the use
- 4 of alternate -- alternative technology including
- 5 BioPath's enzymatic dechlorination. We have a
- 6 template letter of support that we encourage you to
- 7 modify to reflect your thoughts and words. My team
- 8 lead, Ann Larums, is here tonight and she can
- 9 assist in any way coordinating your effort before
- 10 the deadline for public comment. Thank you very 11
 - much.

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MS. RUSSELL: Next we have Chris Young. MR. YOUNG: I think you're going to have to move that up a bit. I think that's almost perfect. My name is Chris Young and I'm the chief technology consultant for BioPath Solutions. I'm also the original developer of the remedial biotechnology of the cleanup of the PCB impacted soil and Allied Paper Landfill Site here in Kalamazoo.

I'm a Michigan native. I was born and raised in Midland, I graduated from Central Michigan University. My training is in organic chemistry and I have more than 30 years of

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shows a further commitment to cleaning up the site. Because of Catskill's experience over the last 20 years, we believe that the site activities, including the BioPath's Solutions enzymatic dechlorination, in accordance with Option D in two

to three years, we know that we can do this safely

We believe this is a more appropriate amount and

and in full compliance of the Superfund process,

8 and most of our work is in Western Michigan and 9 most of our employees live in and around Kalamazoo. 10

We feel strongly about employing local labor so that the people performing the work share with your desires to complete the work timely and safely.

For the team to do this project, we will need the Allied Paper Landfill to become a private Superfund site so that the team can believe the approaches commonly used on Superfund sites, including KL Avenue or most of the other work on the Kalamazoo River. It tends to be substantially less expensive and in recognition of this efficiency, the EPA has recently voiced its support

20 21 of public/private partnerships that move

23 Again, our priority is to efficiently 24 clean the site and bring it to a full reuse. We

performance from federally to privately.

Page 41 experience in the development of insecticides,

- herbicides, rodenticides, fungicides. In other
- 3 words, I'm something of an expert in toxic
- 4 materials. In the late 90s I was involved in
- 5 research and the development of human gene
- 6 therapies for the treatment of HIV and cancer.
- 7 During this research, we studied bacteria collected
- 8 from hazardous waste sites looking for a link
- 9 between chemical exposure and impaired human immune
 - response.

We discovered that in the presence of these chemical pollutants, including PCBs, the natural soil bacteria cannot secrete a reductive enzyme necessary to break down PCBs into component organics that the soil bacteria can then use as food. This PCB-induced impairment is the reason why PCBs persist in the environment following release. The bacteria is prevented from producing reductive enzymes necessary to break down PCBs.

Following years of research and testing, we developed an effective process that restores bacterial enzyme production even in the presence of the offending PCBs. The restored soil bacteria



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rapidly dechlorinates the PCBs, then metabolized, 2 the residual organic component material, the 3 process is turned, enzymatic dechlorination through 4 enhanced bioremediation. The process is 5 restorative, it's safe, it's 100% effective, and 6 its performance is 100% predictable.

I'm here today to address and lay to rest any concerns that this remedial process has proposed for the cleanup of the PCP impacted soil at Allied Paper Landfill, that it's too new, that it's unproven and therefore unreliable.

In 1998, the first-generation factor product was the very first biological treatment to achieve residential cleanup goals on a highly persistent insecticide called toxaphene. In 2005, a factor-based product achieved the first ever cleanup of the PCB site in California, achieving residential clean-up goals in a single season.

In 2014, the factor product demonstrated the remarkable capacity to reduce residual dioxins in soil by 61%, the dioxin reduction never before achieved through bioremediation. This on-site remedial biotechnology has been successfully utilized to clean up dozens of sites impacted by

1 contaminated soil would be trucked off-site. Soil 2 amendments would be incorporated in the soil to 3 enhance the natural bacterial activity and to 4 optimize PCB destruction. Great care will be taken 5 to minimize particulate production and any off-site 6 movement of treatment soils.

BioPath Solutions' goal on every cleanup is to reduce or eliminate the site's target pollutant so the restored site can be reused and redeveloped without the restrictions for the benefit of the local community.

There is no logic in accepting a capped polluted site for the Kalamazoo community when common sense dictates that eliminating the site's pollutants is a far superior solution to simply burying and capping the site's pollutants. When the cost to eliminate the site's pollutants is less than capping and long-term monitoring, then the decision for all of the stakeholders should be the easiest decision to make. Thank you.

21 MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. Mick Warner is 22 next.

MR. WARNER: Good evening. My name is Mick Warner and I'm the president of BioPath

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the most toxic and persistent pollutants.

In each of the successful cleanups achieved to date, the sample of the sites' water was sent to us for analysis and bench study. Following chemical and pollutant analysis by an independent laboratory, one or more product formulations are modified for the sites' chemistry and its microbiology. The product candidate formulation is then tested at bench to determine which product formulation will achieve the greatest PCB reductions in the shortest period of time.

And this is the point I'd like to emphasize, that BioPath Solutions will not, absolutely not mobilize in the field unless we are confident that the analytical data confirms that the product formulation selected for the Allied Paper Landfill Site will achieve the cleanup standards. They're in the process of gathering samples down river and have submitted a request to EPA to help us secure samples from the Allied Paper Landfill.

We've also begun the process to share our proprietary information with EPA. The soil treatment would be performed on-site and no

1 Solutions. We're part of a local team that

proposes to clean up the Allied Paper Landfill

3 Site. You've heard from Jim Miller, the president

4 and owner of Catskill, the local contractor; and

5 from Chris Young, the co-developer of the

6 technology. We're confident that our team can

7 achieve total effective removal and that we can do

8 this safely in comparable time as the EPA-proposed

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plan, using local labor with available funding and

for less money.

Our approach is to transfer the responsibility for the cleanup to our team. We will use local labor to perform the work and then will have demonstrated the ability to biodegrade PCBs and pulp matrix before we mobilize the site. While we appreciate the desire to have the waste removed from the site, we need to accept that that will not happen. Our approach, which is total-effective removal rather than total removal, can happen.

Over the last five years we have spoken with many of you here and have put considerable effort into understanding the needs of all of the stakeholders. Our approach provides



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     consolidate and cap, making EPA's option 2D work
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     all of the stakeholders. For the community
 4
    members, there will be no 41-foot tower of waste
 5
     and if there is any capping, there will be
 6
     approximately three times more funding available to
7
     perform the long-term operation and maintenance.
8
              Most importantly, we're ready and the
9
     funding is ready. There is no more waiting. To
10
     the city and to the county, the site will either be
11
     fully clean and ready for redevelopment or
12
     responsibly funded with safeguards to preclude
13
     Superfund liability. To the down river residents,
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     you'll see a demonstration of a technology that
15
     will work on contamination down river and you'll
16
     have an extra $15 million cleanup funds available.
17
     To the State of Michigan, this option can
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     permanently eliminate a Michigan Superfund Site.
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              And to the EPA, you'll be the front and
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     center in creating a replicable model of
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     public/private partnership and advancing the
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     technology that can be applied throughout the
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     country. You'll have more funds available for down
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     river and if necessary, more funds available for
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total-effective removal with a contingency to

Wells next.

3 course. I've lived in the City of Kalamazoo all of 4 my life. I have lived in this neighborhood most of 5 that. I remember the landfill site when I was in 6 junior high school with no fences and actually 7 playing on the fields. Little bit of history is 8 the City of Kalamazoo, by the time that it had 9 grown to the 1920s, was just encroaching the 10 northern edge of the contaminated site. The city 11 has literally grown up around it and it has never 12 been able to be used. We have an opportunity to 13 really do something that's effective for everyone 14 and I'm not just speaking about the residents or 15 about the outward community, but also for all of 16 the state and federal government and the process of 17 seeing this taken care of in a responsible way. We 18 as citizens have a responsibility to make sure that 19 we have a safe environment to live in.

MR. WELLS: My name is Bill Wells, of

Now I raised five children in this neighborhood and am very proud of the fact that we have got the kind of city that we have, and that we need to take care of it. And so I appreciate all of the work that the EPA's done in collaborating

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operation and maintenance at Allied.
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Tonight we're not asking the EPA or the public to formally select us as remedy provider, but rather to support our request. We asked that EPA facilitate the transfer of the Allied Paper Landfill Site to a responsible party lead and support the use of alternative technologies including BioPath's enzymatic dechlorination process. Cleanup, not cover up can happen but it's not going to happen on its own. We need the support of the community to influence EPA to support this proposed plan in conjunction with option 2D.

We have a template letter and my teammate, Ann Larums, is here and she's back in the back. She's available for any of you here to help with that request. The community has worked tirelessly to find a solution and to achieve total cleanup. I believe it's a testament to the power within this community to demand and require the highest level of care and support from its government officials. Together we can achieve total effective removal.

MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. I have Bill

with the city and the residents. I think we need to continue that collaboration and do what's best for the residents in remediating this site. Thank

MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. Next is Jennifer Clark.

MS. CLARK: The EPA's proposed recommendation for Alternative 2D leaves behind a 41-foot hill of PCBs in the heart of Kalamazoo. The contaminated sediments at Bryant Mill Pond were excavated as part of that emergency response action and temporarily relocated at the Allied Site. At the very least, I ask that the 146,000 cubic yards of temporary toxic waste be permanently removed and taken to a disposal site that is not in an urban area, is not situated on or near aquifers that more than 120,000 citizens rely on for drinking water, and is not adjacent to a recovering waterway. Thank you.

MS. RUSSELL: Gary Wager.

MR. WAGER: My name is Gary Wager and I'm Executive Director of the Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition. Our organization was formed in 2007 as a response to the EPA-approved plan to bring more

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toxic waste to the Allied Site. After about two

- 2 months or so of political activity and public
- 3 demonstrations, in response to our activity I
- 4 believe, the EPA changed their mind and went back
- 5 to the responsible parties to secure the additional
- 6 funds and disposed of the PCB-contaminated material
- 7 that they were cleaning up and disposed of it
- 8 properly in approved landfills.

9 Since 2007 -- 2008, we're officially 10

recognized as a tax-exempt organization, 501(c)(3),

11 by the IRS and since that time I'd like to say

12 we've elbowed our way to the negotiating table and

13 I think tonight is an important step in the process

of getting something done at the Allied Site. Our

15 board has approved in general terms an agreement

with the 2D option. Certainly we're excited about 16

the opportunities that are posed by the technology

18 we've become aware of through BioPath and our

19 letter with comments about the specifics of our

request, one of which Jennifer just mentioned about

the reducing the height of the remaining pile, will

22 be submitted to the EPA in written comment.

23 In closing, I would just like to say

thank you for all those of you and to the EPA who

1 have worked over the years. Also, I see a

2 representative from Lansing, from the MDEQ, and

3 Paul, and all of you who are paying attention to

4 this important issue and I think that the activity

5 that our organization and the citizens of Kalamazoo

6 and particularly some of our partners such as the

7 City of Kalamazoo, have improved the compromise 8

that we see now compared to what we would have

9 received had we done nothing back in 2007. Thank

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MS. RUSSELL: Gillian Asque.

MS. ASQUE: I am Gillian Asque. I'm a

former Bronco and I've just got four concerns I'd

like to address. My first one is with the

cost-benefit analysis of Alternative 2D. From my

16 understanding, its effectiveness is still

17 uncertain, so under CERCLA Section 121(b)(1)(f), I

18 suggest that EPA consider the worst-case scenario

19 if the proposed plan were to fail. Therefore, it

20 would give us a true cost-benefit analysis of

21 comparing Alternative 2D to all other alternatives.

22 My second concern is with the three

23 residential houses with a retirement property that

24 borders the landfill site. And from the

feasibility study, I noticed that they have PCB 1

2 contaminants but it is under four feet of

3 clean-filled material. I just suggest EPA consider

4 under CERCLA Section 101, for remedy of remedial

5 action, to see if it's cost effective or

environmentally preferable to relocate those three

7 residential areas and the retirement home;

8 therefore, long-term effects of the monitoring and

9 keeping track of how much PCB might be released and

what's happening to those three residences can be

kind of controlled.

My third concern deals with MEPA, the

13 Michigan Environmental Protection Act, which is a

14 lot more substantive than NEPA, and under the four

15 factors from the case, City of Portage versus

16 Kalamazoo County Road Commission, the first factor

17 deals with natural resources that are rare and

18 unique, or endangered, or have historical

19 significance. I would just like the EPA to

consider if the Portage Creek falls under one of

21 those categories, and if so, does Alternative 2D in

22 its entirety do the best job of preserving and

23 conserving Portage Creek as a natural resource. Or

24 should the EPA consider Alternative 2D with a

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subalternative such as (i), which would also have

2 trenches and a well that would at least help

3 protect the Creek.

My fourth concern deals with a little bit

5 of clarifying the feasibility study addendum and

6 the proposed plan. And in the proposed plan I

7 noted that the -- with Alternative 2D there will be

8 a lot of restrictive covenants to limit residential

9 use, but from what I've seen under the feasibility

10 study addendum with Alternative 2D, one possible

11 use of the proposed plan is to have a recreational

12 zone, which could include playgrounds. I just

urge the EPA to consider how playgrounds would be

14 working out with little children and the

15 restrictive covenants of either using the fences or

16 having more institutional controls of signage so

17 therefore the kids know not to go by the Creek and

18 drink some water, or stay away from that little

pipe that is coming out of the ground. And those

are my four concerns and thank you so much.

21 MS. RUSSELL: I had 12 turned in and

22 there is no name. Anybody want to take ownership 23 of that? Okay, Kris Mbah.

MR. MBAH: Good try. Moah. And so I



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believe this comment period only is a formality
because you've already made your decisions, and so
I'm wondering how do you actually include people in

4 this communication process? I'm looking around and

5 I'm looking at everyone here and it's a pretty

6 homogeneous group and, of course, this Allied Site

7 is relatively surrounded with Hispanic community

8 and more minorities. How are you reaching out to

9 these minorities and whom are you working with

10 within our community that actually has

relationships with these minorities and core

12 communities in order to actually bring them to this

13 table that, of course, you've already made the

decisions? So I'm wondering, how do you actually

reach out to the community here? Thank you.

MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. Next I have Chris Wahmhoff.

MR. WAHMHOFF: My name is Chris Wahmhoff. I live at the end of the street at Bryant, 1407. I was born in Plainwell, Michigan. Actually, my childhood fort used to be on the Superfund Site in Kalamazoo. And they brought the PCBs up here; that was a basketball court that I played as a kid. I can tell you that whole process, we never got any

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of these warnings. Kids were fishing out of the river then when they were cleaning up, they didn't say anything. We were playing basketball and they didn't say anything then.

And I moved up here -- I actually used to live right next to the Outriders Bike Club. I woke up and lived in that spot for a year. I didn't hear a word about this being a Superfund site. I didn't hear about it being a problem being safety. I didn't hear anything about it the whole time I lived there. Now I live here on Bryant and this doesn't go away. But we've worked with some stuff from the oil spill that we've already had in this river. I've worked with the EPA there and I'll give you guys credit; it wasn't you two.

At EPA, and if anybody wants to YouTube Ward Creek, it was on June 17th, 2013, we found a company illegally dumping. We told EPA, Region 5, and nothing ever happened. 2012, EPA and MDEQ said that the Kalamazoo River was safe for people to go and swim in. What they didn't bother to tell anybody, if you want to look up, -- and feel free to go and prove me wrong -- they said they based some of the data to say that it's safe for people

on a theoretical basis that the same health effects for animals would be the same for people.

So I know that I have some of the paperwork on that for me, but I hear a lot of people thanking the EPA. I hear a lot of people saying how considerate they are. You guys think — I want to know, do you think that they're going to keep your kids safe? Do you really think that this is about our safety and not about money?

Well, here's another one: This one I did bring a flyer on. We all know what's happening in Flint. Well, here's some of the documentation that the EPA knew about this since 2004. So when they say they're about our safety, I won't take it and I'm turning my back purposely on them and I don't care if they can hear me or not. I'm saying this to all of you. It is our responsibility to not ask them, to make them do it. I don't know if anybody else saw that up there but community is ranked No. 9 on the nine people of importance that this is about.

Now I know that BioPath Solutions also reached out to them and they didn't do it. They're going to give them the runaround, the bench test;

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that's why they're pushing for this. It is our responsibility to stand up for ourselves. It is our responsibility to stand up for ourselves. Does anybody believe this state government or this federal government is really speaking for us? Do any of the community members believe any of that? It's on us.

MS. RUSSELL: Next is to Wayne Hampton.

MR. HAMPTON: I'm Wayne Hampton and I've
been around these meetings for quite a while. I
want to commend the current leadership of EPA
Region 5 and those in the City of Kalamazoo for
working together to make progress away from the
earlier combative relationship that was essentially
getting nothing done, nothing moved, everything was
stagnant. It looks like we are poised on the
precipice of actually doing something. So far, if
you look at all the PCB amassed in the Kalamazoo
Superfund area of concern, I think somewhere around
1.5 to 2% has been removed or dealt with.

think this suggested decision is the best possible

outcome of the process. I know Mayor Hopewell

wants to see some of this beautiful riverside

But clearly we need to move forward. I



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property returned to productive use. I know the

- 2 community wants to see the barbed-wire or
- 3 chain-link fence come down and I, myself, would
- 4 like the chance someday to walk or jog or even bike
- 5 along Portage Creek; it's actually quite nice
- 6 looking. So it would be nice to see this return to
- 7 some kind of beneficial use that would augment the
- 8 value that we have here in the City of Kalamazoo.
- 9 Last but not least, I think that the
- 10 community has been listened to. I've attended a
- 11 lot of meetings and I haven't gone to every one of
- 12 them. There was one not that long ago over in the
- Hispanic Center next to St. 13 Joseph Church. There
- 14 have been efforts to reach out, they've even
- 15 offered cookies. So I want to commend those who
- 16 have tried to make this a community outreach. I
- 17 think they've been listening and, again, I think
- 18 this is probably the best deal we're going to get.
- 19 MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. Next we have
- 20 Matt Fletcher.
- 21 MR. FLETCHER: My name is Matt Fletcher.
- 22 I've been -- I think this is a unique partnership
- 23 between the city and the EPA. I think it's a --
- 24 it's never been done before. The EPA, you know,
 - Page 59
- 1 God knows it's not perfect, but there's places, I 2 don't know, 500 -- 1000 miles south of here and
- 3 they just like had to do without any environmental
- 4 regulations. And so I'm excited about this because
- 5 this is a different process that the EPA -- instead
- 6 of just having a community and saying this is the
- 7 way it's going to be. I know Marc Hatton and Bruce
- 8 Merchant and many of the other city leaders who
- 9 spent, you know, hundreds of hours with the EPA,
- 10 and like I said, I think this is a really unique
- 11 opportunity.

12

- I'm concerned about moving 110,000 dump
- 13 trucks full of PCBs through the neighborhoods over three or five years. I live -- you know, I own
- 14
- 15 property on West Maple Street and Emerson, which is
- 16 just a quarter-of-a-mile away from here, and I can 17
- only imagine, you know, a part of that -- you know,
- this neighborhood and not Edison; it's just a 18
- 19 rock's throw over there to the south side
- 20 neighborhood.
- 21 But I'd like to give this to the -- a
- 22 chance. Regarding BioPath, I had an opportunity to
- 23 listen to -- about an hour and 45 minutes, I'm a
- 24 member of the East -- EEC with Chris, and listened

- to them and it's a really exciting technology. 1
- 2 When -- one of the questions that was asked last
- 3 night, I just said how -- what is the largest PCB
- site you've done before and it was in California; 4
- 5 it was 30,000 cubic yards. And we have 1.6
- 6 millions cubic yards.
- 7 I really hope -- I'm cheering for BioPath 8
- down the line, but I don't know if right now if the 9 timing is right. I don't see any reason why this
- 10 couldn't be re-examined by the city or the EPA in
- 11 five years. If there was a technology that proved
- 12 -- proves to work -- because there hasn't been any 13 academic studies yet. I know that they have
- 14 independent studies but there hasn't been any
- 15 academic studies; it's a relatively new technology.
- 16
- And so this might be the way to go five 17
- or ten years from now, but I think right now the 2D 18 compromise -- that's what I'm really excited about,
- 19 because I think that's what I'm excited about.
- 20 that's it, thank you.
- MS. RUSSELL: Thank you. Next is Dayle 21
- 22 Harrison.

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- 23 MR. HARRISON: Mr. Berkoff, I want to
 - thank you for hosting the meeting today and the

Page 61 EPA. My name is Dayle Harrison and I'm president

- 2 of the Kalamazoo River Protection Association. 3 Back in 1978, myself and about four other board
- 4 members of the Kalamazoo River Protection
- 5 Association met at the Allied Paper Site with the
- 6 media trying to get them to approach and get that
- 7 Portage Creek Site cleaned up.
- 8 I recognize it's a long time ago, some of
- 9 you folks weren't even born then, but a few of you
- 10 were probably there. And I want to give you a
- 11 little history of what's happened since then, not
- 12 enough. Way not enough. Fortunately in the
- 13 mid-1990s, about 1998, '97 there was a
- 14 time-critical removal action on Portage Creek.
- 15 That has been the most upstream, highest level of
 - PCB contamination found throughout the Superfund
- 17 site.

16

- 18 And after several years and about
- 19 \$25,000,000, that site was pretty much cleaned up;
- 20 it was stabilized and at that time there was only a
- 21 very small, almost not even detectable level of
- 22 PCBs entering Portage Creek and downstream from the
- 23 Kalamazoo River. There were still issues with 24 Portage Creek, but the Allied site was pretty much

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safe and environmentally protected.

One of the issues here certainly close to my heart, is the issue of aesthetics versus environmental protection. I wrote to Mr. Berkoff back in 2010 saying that I've reviewed then the feasibility study that looked at an Alternative 2B, which was a consolidation of materials at the existing facility.

My thought was there was strong agreement with any data for that, there was environmental protection, protective of human health and the environment. It was cost effective back then; it was called 2B. Back then it was \$41,000,000, now today it's \$43,000,000. So it's my firm belief that action is to protect human health and environment at the site and I'm not sure that EPA concurs with that.

Further evidence is, is that in the bankruptcy proceedings, EPA estimated and gave themselves room to negotiate how much it would cost them to remediate the Allied Paper Site. They came up with a figure of \$53,000,000, which was more than they knew that they thought would be necessary at the time to provide a certain safeguard. And

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that produced documents from the Department of
Justice, the bankruptcy courts ordered. So that
left pretty much a safe amount dedicated to lower
Kalamazoo River.

It was my understanding, and I think it's still true today, that if they don't spend the \$53,000,000 at the Allied Paper Site, that money will be used to go downstream for remediation. Now everyone in this room I think should know by now that the health risk to fish and wildlife, we all know, are downstream. So what we're looking at is, will EPA compromise its position, which it's held firmly for so long and stay with the 2B plan, or will they go with something that's more aesthetically pleasing to the community. This should have been done a long time ago. This could have been done in 2005 or even 2010, but it hasn't happened yet today.

So let's get back to this issue of money. There isn't a lot of money for the Kalamazoo River but we have a vested interest in that bankruptcy money just like the people in Allegan County. We're third-party beneficiaries, we are entitled to benefit from the bargaining the EPA made. We're

also entitled to have a sound solution to the
Allied facilities, so if we can do it with
\$43,00,000 or less, then why would we want to waste
\$20,000,000 to satisfy a condition that is an
environmental risk.

Whenever the EPA steps out of bounds and gets into its political arena, we endanger future cleanups downstream, not just the Kalamazoo River but in sites throughout the country. There isn't anyone here when they don't look inside and look in the mirror and look inside of them politically in the last seven years or so and this is exactly what's transpired.

We had a solution, EPA bowed to the community, which I think is a good idea, but if it's just added studies and producing more projects, and it doesn't improve the environmental protection or human health protection and that's not your job, that's somebody else's job. Your job is to look at CERCLA and provide environmental protection, which you've done.

You've made that decision a couple of times five years ago or more and here we are today in a brand-new ballgame. How are we going to deal

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with this, because they are going to look at
2 \$20,000,000, which is money to be used for
3 downstream efforts and I would be really shocked if
4 they --

5 MS. RUSSELL: You're at five minutes. 6 MR. HARRISON: I have five minutes left? 7 MS. RUSSELL: No, you've had five

minutes.

MR. HARRISON: Well, I appreciate your position. You know, I've represented our group that's been on this site for almost four decades now. We've been intimately involved with the issues in all the fronts. We've been to thousands of meetings over that 40-year period. So I encourage the EPA to discard the preferred alternative and go back to the 2B alternative, which is more than adequate to protect the environment and public health and I'll be forwarding other comments before the deadline. Thank you very much.

MS. RUSSELL: George Magas.

MR. MAGAS: Hello, I'm George Magas.

Well, if we only have a certain amount of money and

if you're taking that money and spending it



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	······································		3
1	Page 66 downstream, it's kind of like it's earmarked for us	1	Page 68
2	and when you write a check for a non-profit and you	2	
3	say you want it used for a certain item, they can	3	
4	go back at you if you don't use it for the item	4	CERTIFICATE
5	that you address it for. So we've lost that money	5	
6		6	
	to use at this site, you know what I'm saying? So	7	STATE OF MICHIGAN
7	it needs to go there.	8	COUNTY OF BERRIEN
8	And the other thing is, you probably	10	I, KRISTI AUBREY, a Certified Stenomask
9	based a lot of your trucking this off to another	11	Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of
10	site on oil prices of three and 50 a gallon and now	12	Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing
11	it's under \$2.00 a gallon, so if you rework those	13	transcript taken on November 19, 2015, is true and
12	numbers that price is going to come down, so we	14	accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill, and
13	could possibly remove the PCBs offsite.	15	ability.
14	MS. RUSSELL: Thank you.	16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
15	MR. BERKOFF: Thank you.	17	hand this 15th day of December, 2015.
16	MS. RUSSELL: I'm out of cards here.	18	
17	That's not precluding someone from grabbing one if	19	, , ,
18	they so desired. I don't see anyone moving in that	20	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO Kristi Lubrey
19	direction, so I'm just going to go ahead and close	0.1	bobberrabab inib birotat 10
20	this portion of the comment period. Please note	21	before me this 15 day KRISTI AUBREY, CSMR-9019 of December, A.D., 2015.
21	that you can submit your comments, postmark those,	22	or becomed, n.b., 2010.
22	mail them, submit them online. Those need to be		Chicago E Capable Services and
23	postmarked by December 1, submitted by December 1,	23	NOTARY PUBLIC My commission expires:
24	and those will be submitted into the public	24	May 20, 2022
	Dava 67		
1	Page 67 comments for this remedy. So with that, on behalf		
2	of Region 5 EPA, thank you all for coming out and		
3	spending your time with us this evening. We value		
4	that time and effort you made to come out and talk		
5	about this project. And have a good evening and		
6	travel home safely. Thank you.		
7	(The hearing is concluded at 8:15 p.m.)		
8	(The hearing is concruded at 0.15 p.m.)		
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